

OPINION 1785

Dytiscus biguttatus Olivier, 1795 (currently *Agabus biguttatus*; Insecta, Coleoptera): specific name conserved

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers the specific name *biguttatus* Gmelin, 1790, as published in the binomen *Dytiscus biguttatus*, and all uses of the name *Dytiscus biguttatus* prior to that by Olivier, 1795, are hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy.

(2) The name *biguttatus* Olivier, 1795, as published in the binomen *Dytiscus biguttatus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology:

- (a) *biguttatus* Gmelin, 1790, as published in the binomen *Dytiscus biguttatus* and as suppressed in (1) above;
- (b) *olivieri* Zaitzev, 1908, as published in the binomen *Agabus olivieri* (a junior objective synonym of the specific name of *Dytiscus biguttatus* Olivier, 1795).

History of Case 2777

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Dytiscus biguttatus* Olivier, 1795 was received from Dr A.N. Nilsson (*University of Umeå, Umeå, Sweden*) on 1 June 1990. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 50: 127–128 (June 1993). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

Support for the application was received from Dr Hans Silfverberg (*Universitetets Zoologiska Museum, Helsingfors, Finland*).

Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 1994 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 50: 127–128. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1994 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 23: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Willink

Negative votes — 3: Bouchet, Macpherson and Štys.

No votes were received from Cogger and Uéno.

Ride was on leave of absence.

Štys commented: 'The problem of the primary homonymy between *Dytiscus biguttatus* Gmelin, 1790 and *D. biguttatus* Olivier, 1795 was correctly dealt with by Zaitzev (1908), who proposed the replacement specific name of *Agabus olivieri* for the latter. In my view the Commission should not sanction the disregard for the correct nomenclatural action by the coleopterological community'.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

biguttatus, *Dytiscus*, Gmelin, 1790, *Caroli a Linné Systema Naturae*, Ed. 13, vol. 1, part 4, p. 1959.

biguttatus, *Dytiscus*, Olivier, 1795, *Entomologie, ou histoire naturelle des insectes*, vol. 3, no. 40, p. 26.

olivieri, *Agabus*, Zaitzev, 1908, *Russkoe Entomologicheskoe Obozrenie*, 7: 121.